

First News First

Volume 54, Issue 10

November 2021

During the month of October, the Stewardship theme of “Beacon of Hope” had been highlighted in various ways. All of these emphasized the importance of supporting these “beacons” through our offerings. Enclosed in this issue of “First News First” is the 2022 offering commitment card for your consideration on how you can respond to these “beacons.”

Please prayerfully think about how far your offerings will go as you fill out the card. Return the card on October 31 at the Service, or return it to the office, so that the Finance Committee may have a sense of how to plan the budget for 2022.

Thank you for your generous response!



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP Sponsored by LARC

The Lutherans, Anglicans (Episcopalians),
and Roman Catholics
are joining together to Give Thanks
(Thanksgiving) to God
through worship on Tuesday,
November 23 at 7:00 p.m.
at Corpus Christi
(320 Philadelphia Avenue, Chambersburg)

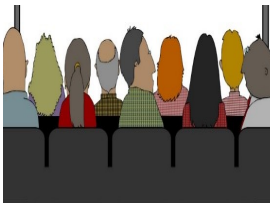
Worship



- October 31 Reformation Worship with Holy Communion.
Reception of Anticipated Giving Cards
(please place cards in the offering plate)
Guest Preacher: Pastor Herbert Spomer
- November 7 All Saints Sunday with Holy Communion and
remembrance of the saints.
(Remember to change your clocks!)
- November 14 Holy Communion followed by the Congregation meeting
- November 21 Christ the King Sunday - Thank Offering Sunday for Women of the ELCA
Guest preacher: The Rev. Carla Christopher-Wilson, Lower Susuehanna Synod
Assistant to the Bishop related to ministries of social justice including racial,
LGBTQIA+, immigration, hunger, and poverty
- November 23 Thanksgiving Worship at Corpus Christi. Sponsored by LARC. 7:00 p.m.
- November 28 First Sunday of Advent



**Remember to change
your clocks on
November 7.**



Congregation Meeting, November 14, 2021

First Lutheran will be having a congregational meeting on Sunday, November 14 following 10:45 worship. The purpose of this meeting will be to elect council members to serve a three year term beginning January 1, 2022.



COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

First Lutheran Church is in need of persons who are willing and able to serve on the Congregation Council for the years 2022 through 2024. Three positions are needing to be filled. Currently Barb Evans, Mary Beth McGraw-Warne, and Sally Herritt have agreed to be nominated.

Please pray about serving in this leadership capacity.
If you are feeling called to serve on our governing body,
please speak with Tom Kriner (717-360-9908)

Advent, November 28, 2021

Advent begins this year on Sunday, November 28. “Open the door” to the season with your own **ADVENT CALENDAR**. We will be placing them in Memorial Hall shortly before the start of advent.

THE ADVENT WREATH will be lit at worship each Sunday leading up to Christmas. If you do not have a wreath – feel free to take 4 candles – dinner candles, votive candles, electric candles, whatever you have and place them in a circle, lighting one each week. In our congregation we traditionally use blue candles as that is the color of hope.



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born. Hope is Here.

By Max Lucado

This four session video Bible study explores how God chose to make himself nothing and come into our world. Jesus’ birth gives us the promise that God is always near us, always for us, and always within us. Join us on Monday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. throughout the season of Advent (November 29, December 6, 13, and 20) as we pause in our busy lives to remember God’s gift of love and hope. Meeting Room 2, facilitated by Pastor Nicholson.

ADVENT SELF-STUDY MATERIALS will be available in Memorial Hall shortly before the start of Advent.

LARC Advent Dinner has been cancelled for this year because of Covid 19. Please join us for Thanksgiving Worship instead on Tuesday, November 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Corpus Christi, 320 Philadelphia Ave; Chambersburg.

Christmas Worship



The Worship and Music Committee is planning to have worship at 7:00 p.m. on December 24 and at 9:30 a.m. on December 25. We are still considering what these worship services will look like given covid restrictions. We are also exploring an afternoon service on December 24. If you have any thoughts related to scheduling, please share them with members of the Worship and Music Committee.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Highlights



Property Committee:

- Approved the purchase of a new defibrillator.
- Office space for *She's Somebody's Daughter* is almost completed. Still working on lease agreement.
- We continue to wait on the elevator door and the generator replacement.
- Approved the purchase of a new exterior sign near the sidewalk from Art Signs.
- *Frontier Girls* (a scout-like organization) has requested our church to be their charter organization. Approved on trial basis for one year.
- The local Guild of Organists will hold their 50th anniversary gathering in our Fellowship Hall on October 23.

Finance Committee:

- Committee is preparing the 2022 budget. Thank you to each committee for their input.
- Approved the LARC Committee's request to use First Lutheran's EIN to establish a new checking account for this organization of which we are a member.

Worship & Music Committee:

- Updated Covid Protocols were agreed upon:
 - maximum of 10 in the choir loft for anthems
 - offering plates will again be placed at the doors,
 - and masks should be worn.
- Tom Kriner is chairing a task team to update the livestreaming equipment.

Congregational Meeting and Annual Meeting Dates:

- Congregational meeting to elect new council members will be held November 14, 2021. Mary Beth McGraw-Warne and Barb Evans are willing to be nominated for a second term. Sally Herritt has also agreed to be nominated.
- Annual meeting to approve the budget will be January 30, 2022, with no potluck discussion time the evening prior.

Discernment Task Force Update:

- This task force is in the beginning phase of developing an action plan and direction for the future of our church.

Mutual Ministry:

- The council approved a sabbatical leave for Pastor Nicholson in the summer/fall of 2022.

Congregational Records:

- Motion carried to transfer membership of Rodney and Bonnie McKenrick to Trinity Lutheran, Fort Collins, Co.

Dear family in Christ:

Once in a while I come across some brief thoughts from a little book, “Day by Day We Magnify Thee – Daily Meditations from Luther’s Writings arranged according to the Year of the Church.” It was published in 1950 in Philadelphia by what was then Muhlenburg Press. I plan to share some of these with you from time to time through “First News First.” The following are thoughts of Martin Luther on the Church; the scripture texts are from his translation.

Pastor Kampmeyer

THE WORD SHOWS WHETHER THE CHURCH IS PRESENT

I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. JOHN 17:6

There is no argument about whether there is on earth a Church which humans should obey. The battle begins when people must decide which is the true Church. As long as we judge according to human words and understanding we cannot settle this quarrel, nor can we find the true Church, but as we can reach certainty in the matter if we hear how Christ our Lord Himself describes and portrays the Church. Here He christens and depicts her as the little company which loves Christ and keeps His Word (for thus is such love known and felt). ‘My Word’, He says, ‘must remain and be kept, or there can be no Church’. The Word of Christ is here the rule and test whereby one can find and know the true Church, and by which she must set her course, for there must be a rule and order according to which the Church shall preach and act. It is not right that anyone speak and act as he/she likes, and claims that the Church has spoken, and acted by, the Holy Spirit. And that is why Christ binds His Church to His Word and gives it to her as a sign whereby one may enquire and test whether she possesses the Word, and teaches and preaches in accordance with it and does everything for the love of Christ.



Sermon on Whitsunday (Pentecost), 1544

NEIGHBORHOOD TASK TEAM

Sharing God's love in our community

MEGA EVENT - NOVEMBER 6, 2021 - 11 A.M.—2 P.M.

This is our opportunity to help our neighbors be comfortable through the winter and a chance for us to share God's love. First Lutheran is partnering with Trinity Lutheran and St. Luke Lutheran in our efforts to bless our community. Thanks be to God who is working through all of us. If you have questions please contact Mary Gotwald at 717-264-4759.

Scheduled Work Days for the Nov 6, 2021 Mega Event At First Lutheran

Set up Day Thursday November 4, 2021 Fellowship Hall 1 pm

Additional work days may need to be scheduled as we get closer to the event.

Event Day Schedule November 6, 2021 11 am-2pm

Volunteers please arrive by 10-10:15 am

You may stay the entire event time or you may leave when necessary.

Thank you



All women of the church are invited to the monthly meeting of the Women of the ELCA. The group will meet in the meeting room on

Thursday, November 11 at 1:30 p.m.

Jean Reed will lead the Bible study based on "Joy."



Ladies' Breakfast

The Women's Fellowship Breakfast

will be on

Wednesday November 17 at 8:30 a.m. at Greenvillage Diner.

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME.

The Women of the ELCA will take part in their annual Thankoffering Service on Sunday, November 21. The Rev. Carla Christopher-Wilson will bring the message. Carla is an Assistant to the Bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and has responsibilities in ministries of Social Justice and Global Missions. All members of the congregation are invited to contribute to the Thankoffering, which is used by the national organization for education and mission support.



The backpack program is designed to help meet the nutritional needs of children at risk of hunger during non-school hours, specifically weekends and holidays. Through this program, participating kids will be given special backpacks once each week that will be filled with non-perishable food which can be used to meet their weekend nutritional needs. In November fruit items are collected in individual serving sized containers.

- Canned fruit / fruit cups in light syrup
- Dried fruit: raisins, plums, cranberries

Thank you for your contributions.

Thank You

Dear Rose & First Lutheran Church,

Greetings from Peru!

We have just arrived after the whirlwind of prep and packing to make this move, and we want to take a moment to pause as we think of those of you back home who have made this possible. Thank you so much for your generous support. We are both moved and inspired by your church. You are a real blessing, not only to us, but to the people and communities we'll be serving here in Peru with Peace and Hope International. May God continue to bless each of you in new ways as you strive to be a light of hope in this world. We look forward to staying in touch. 😊 Matthew 11: 28-30



With Love, Jon & Laurie, plus 5 sweets!

Retreats

QUILT AUCTION

Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA is having its annual Quilt Auction at Camp Nawakwa (1033 Nawakwa Rd, Biglerville, PA 17307) on Sunday, November 7. The silent auction of handmade craft items is at 2 p.m. The live auction of Quilts is at 3:00 p.m. Dinner following the live Auction. This is a free event and includes an evening meal. Register by October 31. Items may be previewed at LutheranCamping.org/quiltauction



WOMEN'S CRAFT RETREAT

**Eat
Sleep
Craft
Repeat** November 12-14 at Nawakwa. You may bring your own project to work on or they will be provided. Registration fee: \$155. Register by November 1. Meals, lodging, and most supplies provided. Call 717-677-8211 or visit LutheranCamping.org to register.

Winter Youth Retreat

Enjoy Kirchenwald in the Winter! For youth in grades 3 through 9. January 7-9, 2022 at Kirchenwald. Play broom hockey and other games on the frozen pond. Have fun sledding, playing snow soccer, and other winter games. Creative Bible Study and Worship experiences are led by summer camp counselors. Other indoor and outdoor activities may be included as weather dictates. Cost \$145. Registration deadline is December 15. Call 717-677-8211 or visit LutheranCamping.org to register.



Announcements

She's Somebody's Daughter Update

In November, *She's Somebody's Daughter* will begin moving into the chapel office wing previously occupied by *SpiriTrust Counseling Services*. I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to my paint crew, Preston Friend, Justin Holoviak and Rose, for their work in the transformation of these three rooms. Please stop by if you get a chance to see the renovation and to welcome the new organization.

Thank you, Gerry Wilson

Grief Support Group

Trinity Lutheran will begin a 13 week grief support group on Thursday, November 11.

You may register by calling the office at Trinity Lutheran (717-263-8156).



Volunteer Opportunities at SpiriTrust Lutheran, The Village at Luther Ridge We are thrilled to welcome volunteers back to our campus! Please consider spending quality time with our residents through the following opportunities:

Off-site escorts for independent living are currently needed. These volunteers provide an essential service by accompanying independent living residents along with team members on off-campus outings, such as group trips to concerts, restaurants, theatre productions, and other local events. This is a great way to spend time with residents while helping to provide a safe outing. Volunteer meals and ticket costs are covered on these trips.

Life Enrichment volunteers are needed at the personal care and skilled care levels. These volunteers assist by leading or helping residents to participate in games, crafts, or other activities. If you are a “crafty” person or enjoy playing cards or other games, this could be for you. Bingo is also very popular so we also have a particular need for bingo callers.

If you are interested in these opportunities or would like to explore other possibilities, please reach out to Linda Beaver at 717-264-0737 or lbeaver@spiristrustlutheran.org.

HELPING HANDS



TRANSPORTATION

Need a Ride?

Our church provides transportation to church on Sundays!

Please call if you need a ride.
Church office: 717-264-2015

HELPING HANDS

Council

President: Tim Gotwald
 Vice President: Tom Kriner
 Secretary: Rose Wilson
 Pastor: Jane Nicholson
 Deacon: Freda Dorand
 Jeff Dorand
 Barb Evans
 Warren Heintzelman
 Mary Beth McGraw-Warne
 Joyce Ray
 Tedd Sloan
 Gerry Wilson
 Treasurer: Sally Herritt
 Financial Secretary: Carol McCoy



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Rebecca Hoover	11/1	Mary Wingert	11/12
Nancy Lawyer	11/1	Peggy Stout	11/14
Allison Beaudry	11/4	Darlene Hurst	11/15
Debra Fleegal	11/4	Crystal McKenrick	11/17
Patti Nitterhouse	11/4	Dorothy Hammer	11/20
Bill Coy	11/5	Nicki Johnson	11/21
Joan Thorpe	11/5	Gary Kennedy	11/21
Sharan Carbaugh	11/6	Scott Drake	11/23
Jeff Dorand	11/8	Barbara Evans	11/23
Mary Julia Gotwald	11/9	Andrew Hefner	11/25
Ann Hurst	11/9	Bob Lawyer	11/25
Bryce Webber	11/12	Debra Umbrell- Tressler	11/29

PRAYER CHAIN

May we include you in our prayers? Do you have a prayer need that we can help you with? If so, please call our prayer-chain group leader:

Marcia Hunt @
717-263-0781

Names are kept on the prayer chain for 1 month. After that month, please contact the office again if you would like to have a name on for another month.



Deadline for the
December Newsletter
will be
November 15.





HOSPITALIZATION

If someone you know from our church is hospitalized please contact Pastor Nicholson to let her know by calling 717-264-2015 ext.4 or email flcpastor@outlook.com. If this is an emergency—feel free to contact Pastor Nicholson at home 717-753-3940

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Chambersburg, PA 17201
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Website: www.felcc.org

 @FirstEvangelicalLutheranChurch
 @felccyouth

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Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICE	717-264-2015
Parish Administrator	ext. 1
Director of Music	ext. 3
Pastor	ext. 4

DATED MATERIAL—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



All Saints Sunday Worship
November 7, 2021 at 10:45

We will be remembering the saints who have blessed us in our daily living and in the past year have entered the church triumphant. Join us for this special day either at www.FELCC.org, facebook, or in person. If you have a loved one who has entered the church triumphant between November 1, 2019 and October 31, 2020 whom you would like to have remembered by name on All Saints Sunday, please contact the church office and include the spelling of the name, and date of death if available. felccoffice@gmail.com